

The  
Spring  
Season  
Begins  
on  
Sunday  
20 March!

# HIGH POINT

Vol. 18, No. 3

BISHOP FORD CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

Spring, 1994

Thanks to all the  
members of the Ford  
community, students,  
teachers and staff,  
who worked so hard  
during our chance  
book drive.

## Falcon Environmental Society Sponsors Field Trips



Falcon Environmental Society at Jamaica Bay wildlife refuge.

by Brandon Broady

Many Ford students who have taken an interest in the Falcon Environmental Society have been going on several exciting trips.

Dr. Anthony Defina, who is the coordinator of this society, recently set up one of the groups best outings. This field trip was "a behind the scenes" look at the Bulouga whales at the New York City Aquarium at Coney Island.

With the cold air blowing across our faces, we stood on top of the aquarium that held the whales and got a chance to meet the friendly creatures.

The guides talked to us from boats that allowed them

to feed, nurture, and train the enormous whales that once graced the land with their presence as four-legged mammals. The whales were well trained. They did show tricks, such as diving, 10B-tailing, and spy hopping gracefully.

The guide answered every question, even how they are born; we saw the birth of two right there at the aquarium. But, believe it or not, they are born tail first to allow them to seek their first vital breath of air, which is the survival test between life and death for these new-borns happening within minutes.

But besides learning about the whales themselves (for ex-

ample, how they were once hunted for their precious blubber), it was important to know that students like you and I could volunteer our time and learn among the best marine biologists and oceanographers, and get hands-on experience with animals, such as these whales.

F.E.S. exposes you to these new adventures right here in our city. Did you know, for example, that these whales can be found right out here on New York City's Atlantic coast? So come and join Dr. DeFina's society, have fun and learn about our environment, which is more than bad traffic.

## National Honor Society Thrives

by Jeannie Hancock

On Friday, October 8, 1993, the National Honor Society held its first meeting of the year. At this meeting, the members elected officers. The new office holders for the year of 1993-94 are: Jennifer Di-Vietri as president; Kelly Ann Flahive as vice-president; Brandon Broady as secretary, and Jennifer Polansky as treasurer.

We also discussed various activities that can be sponsored by the NHS. The National Honor Society started off the first blood drive of the year, which took place on October 20, 1993. The NHS Blood Drive Committee consisted of the following members: Jennifer DiVietri—403, Kelly-Ann Flahive—403, Jennifer Polansky—407, Gina Cicco—302, Lauren Hammond—304, Jeannie Hancock—304, and Nicole Increchera—305. Approximately twenty students and faculty members donated blood. More than twenty people volunteered, but some were turned away because of health problems.

To those of you who were unable to donate blood the first time, we encourage you to donate blood in the spring when NHS will be sponsoring another blood drive! It's a big help and a life-saver to those who need it.

Also, some of the NHS members will be volunteering one period per week for tutoring.

The National Honor Society also congratulates the seventeen new members who were inducted on November 10 at

the NHS awards dinner. We are happy to have them and we encourage those of you who did not make it to try again if possible, and to those who didn't try, consider the NHS next year!

An activity that was proposed for the holidays was attending a hospital or senior citizen home and bringing gifts for the elderly and also singing Christmas carols for these people who are lonely during the holidays. As it turned out, members of the NHS visited the Queen of Peace Residence on December 21, bringing with them toiletries to be distributed to the residents. NHS members were warmly greeted and concluded the visit with a pizza party back at school.

Mrs. Leggio Carielli said she was, "Delighted with the response of the Bishop Ford community to the cause and was encouraged by the time and effort given to the project by N.H.S. members."

—Newly Admitted Members—

National Honor Society  
Maria Smeragliuolo  
Lynda Belcastro  
Simone Boyles  
Ishani Chowdhury  
Wendy Deida  
MaryEllen Gambino  
Christine Goldston  
Steve Jean Baptiste  
Karen Lall  
Dominic Lazaro  
Deborah Lopez  
Verena McKenzie  
Joseph Mignone  
Kathleen Polansky  
Kelly Poore  
Michele Redding  
Stephen Scott

### BISHOP FORD CHALK CIRCLE PLAYERS

Present

AH, WILDERNESS!

by EUGENE O'NEILL

Friday and Saturday, April 29 & 30—8 P.M.—Admission \$5.00

## Aquinas Group Members Teach Classes At Catholic Elementary Schools

by Dominic Lazaro

The Aquinas Group was founded in the spring of 1993 by the Reverend Guy J. Puglisi as an initiative toward enriching the curriculum of Catholic grammar schools. The Aquinas Group provides an opportunity for adept students to transcend requisite learning and discover the pure joy that comes from learning for the sake of learning. It exists to instill a love of knowledge. In its first year, the Aquinas Group operates within fourteen schools of the diocese. The Bishop Ford section of the Aquinas Group consists of honor students who were chosen exclusively by Father Puglisi. They are: Elizabeth Alicea, Gina Cicco, Jeannie

Hancock, Eric Ignieri, Dominic Lazaro and Matthew Zocco. These students have the distinction of being charter members of the Aquinas Group.

Tuesday mornings at 7:40 (before classes), the Bishop Ford section of the Aquinas Group convenes to attend a series of lectures on Thomistic metaphysics that is a graduate-level course conducted by Father Puglisi. Thomistic metaphysics is the scholasticism of Saint Thomas Aquinas, the patron and namesake of the Aquinas Group. Saint Thomas Aquinas is the author of the official Catholic philosophy that postulates that there is no conflict between philosophy and theology in a universe where everything is

arranged in ascending order to God. The topics of these lectures are keyed to the writings of Saint Thomas Aquinas as the classical elements that are of significance to Thomistic metaphysics. Father Puglisi describes this course as, "Designed to help students think clearly and abstractly, using the discipline of metaphysics to formulate clear definitions, comparisons, and to analyze and synthesize as well as evaluate (ideas) as the means of achieving a clear Christian perspective."

The students who participate in the Aquinas Group at Bishop Ford teach classes in the other sections of the Aquinas Group in the Catholic grammar schools as a Chris-

tian Service Project. Classes in the grammar school sections of the Aquinas Group are on topics similar to the lectures of Father Puglisi but of lesser intensity. Students in the grammar school sections of the Aquinas Group are the most advanced students of their classes. These students are usually picked from the seventh and eighth grades to participate in classes that have an average size of four students.

Father Puglisi is pleased with the programs of the Aquinas Group in its first year, especially with his section at Bishop Ford. The students of the Bishop Ford section of the Aquinas Group scored an average of 95 percent on what Father Puglisi

referred to as a "very difficult mid-term." The students are said to have demonstrated an "extensive grasp of the material and have been able to personalize it in their grammar school assignments." For the next school year the Aquinas Group is set for expansion. Commenting on his plans for the expansion of the Aquinas Group, Father Puglisi said, "In the next school year I intend to have a larger class, or two sections; their work in the grammar schools will increase." The success that the students of the Bishop Ford section have brought to the Aquinas Group underlines Father Puglisi's praise. They are "absolutely wonderful, and a credit to their school."



## Don't Rely On Channel 1

by John McKenna, IV

In recent times, parochial, private and some rural public schools have been struggling for financial survival. The schools wished to update their technology in hopes of providing a better education for the students. They also observed that the students were not familiar with current events. Then the schools were given an offer they could not refuse: the schools would be furnished with *free* brand-new color televisions and satellite signal receiving equipment if a daily news broadcast would be shown in the classroom. There was only one catch: during the broadcast, paid advertisements would be shown.

So began the sordid affair between schools and the Whittle Communication Company's Channel One news broadcast. This broadcast has the ability to influence subtly the minds of the students in our schools with commercials and one-sided news coverage.

The commercials at first were public service announcements paid for by companies that would show their logos during the final seconds of the commercial. I believe this tactic was used to soften up the student, as well as fool the parents and teachers into thinking the companies had their best interests in mind and not their wallets. Now the advertisements have been transformed from public service announcements to the flashy commercials normally seen on network television. These commercials advertise items ranging from movies to acne medication. It seems strange that after a movie has been advertised on Channel One, the star of that movie is suddenly a guest anchor for the news broadcast. This guest anchoring also applies to musicians with upcoming albums and stars of new television programs.

Since the PepsiCo company began advertising on Channel One, I suddenly noticed that the only soda vending machines in the cafeteria are from PepsiCo. Were they the only sodas available before Channel One? The Magnovox Company which supplied the schools with the free televisions is making up for its generosity by being able to advertise its consumer electronics in the classroom.

The coverage Channel One gave to the 1992 presidential election was extremely biased. William Clinton was shown as a youthful crusader surrounded by droves of young people, telling them how he was going to change the world just for them. On the other hand, George Bush was always shown as a scowling curmudgeon. His speeches were edited so that it seemed he was a lying cheat who wanted to force iron discipline on the youth of our nation and send them marching to their deaths in some foreign land. A broadcast with such a powerful influence has the duty to report objectively.

Channel One's manipulation of the minds of our youth must end. Our teachers and parents have had the wool pulled over their eyes. It is up to the students not to watch this broadcast, but to read a book, or a newspaper, or even a news magazine. Whatever you do, don't rely on Channel One for your view of the world!

## The Three Months Of Spring

by Keeth Fiocco

Spring, which I believe is the best time of the year, is a time when we say goodbye to the snow, ice, and bone-chilling weather of winter, and say hello to the birth of flowers and trees and love and baseball.

The temperature gets higher, and the ice melts away. The grass grows green and thick, and children come out to play.

The bee's buzz, the birds come back and sing, and of course it rains. Everybody comes out to enjoy these wonderful spring days.

Yes, I believe spring is the best season. It would be perfect if we had those three months off.

## The Human Race: An Endangered Species?

by Keeth Fiocco

Mother Earth is our one true domain, formed billions and billions of years ago, supposedly from an explosion of combined gases and matter.

During many of these years man has lived and evolved, and with evolution comes technology, and with technology come both pros and cons, and the cons are what society is worried about.

Society has been active in helping the environment since the 60's, and now, over thirty years later, society is just as aware, if not more so, of the deteriorating earth.

Every day, more and more of the rain forests and the ozone layer are destroyed by man.

The ozone layer, which protects us from the sun's harmful rays, has deteriorated and now has holes in some regions. The deepest hole is found in the antarctic. The hole is as big as the United States, and as deep as Mt. Everest is high, and scientists aren't really sure why this is happening.

The rain forests, our most precious natural resources, are being destroyed at a very fast rate. They provide us with much of our oxygen and medicine, such as penicillin. For all we know, the cure for cancer or even AIDS may be found there.

So, this so-called "progress" of ours has destroyed thousands of acres of forests, may have caused serious diseases such as cancer, and has put many animals on the endangered species list. And maybe, just maybe, one day the human race will be added to that list.

## International Society Club Celebrates All Cultures

by Jahmel K. Weary

The International Society Club is an extracurricular activity offered to the students of Bishop Ford by moderator Mr. Quattrocchi. This club usually meets on Monday afternoons during which the members discuss various issues concerning our world/society, as well as make preparations for some school activities put together by our club. In this club one is enabled to accept the diverse cultures, races, etc. that attend the meetings, as well as accept those who are a part of our Bishop Ford community. Apart from our club trying to recruit more members, and trying to get students to listen to the messages that we are trying to convey, we have come up with a solution that you can never forget!

Each year the International Society Club gives students the opportunity to celebrate each other's cultures. On February 15, 1994 the International Club will be putting together Culture Day. On that day, we will ask the students to participate by wearing traditional garments which symbolize where they are from. That week, we will also have a variety of foods prepared on different days in order to represent a particular country. We strongly urge that you contribute and help support in every way possible the Culture Day, which the International Society Club has worked especially hard to put together. In order to keep abreast of the day we are celebrating during the week and what foods will be prepared that day, it will be announced on the PA system, so listen up! We can make a difference, but we have to start with ourselves first!

## Poetry In Motion

by Anthony Trupiano

UNAWARE

Look! Can't you see

There's another Robert

E. Lee!

Leading troops into another civil war,

Disregarding constitutional law!

Look! Can't you here?

It's the silent sound of fear!

It's sneaking up on one and all,

Making people worry about an inter-racial brawl!

Look! Can you feel it?

A kid got shot instead of hit!

The cops don't care,

They just stand by and stare.

Look! Can't you tell?

The country is ready to sell!

There's no more national pride,

All the hard working Americans died!

## In God We Trust

by John McKenna, IV

Abraham Lincoln in his Gettysburg Address stated that "Four score and seven years ago our forefathers brought forth on this continent a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal . . . We here highly resolve that these dead shall not have died in vain; that this nation, under God, shall have a new birth of freedom."

Thomas Jefferson assisted at the birth of our nation by writing in the Declaration of Independence, "When in the course of human events, it becomes necessary for one people to dissolve the political bands which have connected them with another, and to assume among the powers of the earth the separate and equal station to which the laws of nature and nature's God entitled them, a decent respect to the opinions of mankind requires that they should declare the causes that impel them to the separation. We hold these truths to be self evident: that all men are created equal; that they are endowed by their creator with certain unalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

These statements were made by two of the most influential figures in American jurisprudence. They show that among the founding principles of this nation was a belief in God. Perhaps even more importantly, this nation was explored and settled by those who came to this wilderness seeking religious freedom. Many of these people came from nations that had established religions that they were forced to follow. Some worshipped their God in fear and secrecy, hoping never to be caught.

Long before the Constitution was written, religious freedom was a founding force in the British colonies that were to become the United States of America. William Penn founded the colony of Pennsylvania with a contract called the "Frame of Government" between his colonists and him. Its high point was the guarantee that all could worship freely. When Cecilius Calvert, the Baron of Baltimore, was planning the government of Maryland, he made religious tolerance a central feature of his project.

When the Constitution was ratified, the first amendment to that hallowed document was the guarantee that "Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion or prohibiting the free exercise thereof."

It is the obligation of parents to be the first teachers of their children. It is their duty to teach religious and moral values to their children. Parents who chose to send their children to a public school system should have their religious views respected. A prayer to any particular "God," whether that be Jehovah, Christ, Mohammed, Buddha, or Beavis and Butt-head, would be unconstitutional, as well as unethical. Does this eliminate the possibility of prayer in public schools? The answer is no! Each student has the right to pray under the Constitution should be so choose. To deny that right would be to prohibit the exercise of a person's religious freedom. A moment of silence, which would provide a student the opportunity to pray to his/her God for help and guidance through the school day would satisfy the provisions made in the Constitution for freedom of religion.

## He Is Risen!

by Jahmel Weary

Once again it is the time of the year to expect a visit from that ole' famous Bunny Rabbit. Get your baskets decorated with plastic grass, jelly beans, and most importantly those famous dyed Easter eggs. Well, those fancy baskets and the colored eggs are only a small segment of the Easter holiday; that isn't what Easter really is about.

On Ash Wednesday, the day after Shrove Tuesday, many Christians start a solemn forty-day period of fast and prayer called Lent. It recalls Christ's forty-day fast in the wilderness.

The final week of Lent, called Holy Week, recalls the events of the last week of Christ's life on earth. It begins on Palm Sunday, named for the palms that people spread before Jesus as he entered Jerusalem in triumph.

On the Thursday of the last week of Lent, Maundy Thursday, Christians recall Jesus' Last Supper and the time he washed his disciples' feet.

They observe Good Friday, the day of Christ's crucifixion, in a somber manner, and spend Holy Saturday in anticipation.

On Easter Sunday, all Christians in all parts of the world unite in their feelings of joy in the resurrection of our savior, Jesus Christ.

### HIGHPOINT

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## And Of The Son

by Vincent Lijoi

This movie review is on the movie *In the Name Of the Father*. In this true-life political thriller, Daniel Day-Lewis plays Gerry Conlon, the young thief from Belfast who, in 1974, was wrongly convicted of being an IRA terrorist. As Day-Lewis plays him, Gerry is a misfit and a screw up, a goofball rebel whom the experience of prison gradually molds into a man. The catalyst of the change is his reconciliation with his father, the stern and harsh Giuseppe, played by Pete Postlethwaite. In the end, Gerry triumphs over injustice but, even more inspiring, triumphs over the troubles in his own soul.

The movie is rated R and is playing in theaters now.



National Honor Society members prepare to visit the Queen of Peace Residence.

## NHS Aids Queen Of Peace Residents

NHS students at Bishop Ford High School in Brooklyn, New York, conducted a two week drive to collect needed toiletries to be distributed at the Queen of Peace Residence for senior citizens. The drive was marked by announcements and posters. An enthusiastic response resulted in hundreds of items being collected. Some NHS members delivered the items and met and chatted with the residents. The NHS members were inspired by their visit and are discussing further projects that will help the senior citizens at the residence.

The Bishop Ford NHS sponsors several projects throughout the year, including a blood drive.

## Kid 'N' Play Played Out In House Party 3

by Brandon Broady

The return of the once hype duo Kid 'n' Play in their third house play party movie was mildly entertaining. A four letter word to sum up the music and plot is wack W...A...C...K.

House 3 seemed to be a pilot run off several "def comedy jam" shows. Comedians such as Berney Mac, who made the movie funny, played their parts well. But my question is, where is Martin Lawrence? Stop the movie? Go get him! And who is this new cousin of Play's!

House Party 3 disappointed me and, as in most continuous movie series, the first *House* was the best. Tisha Campbell, who was Kid's girlfriend, now has a small cameo part in this movie, and this also was displeasing to the audience. But as for Kid 'n' Play, their movie will put duckets, beans, loot, or money in their pockets.

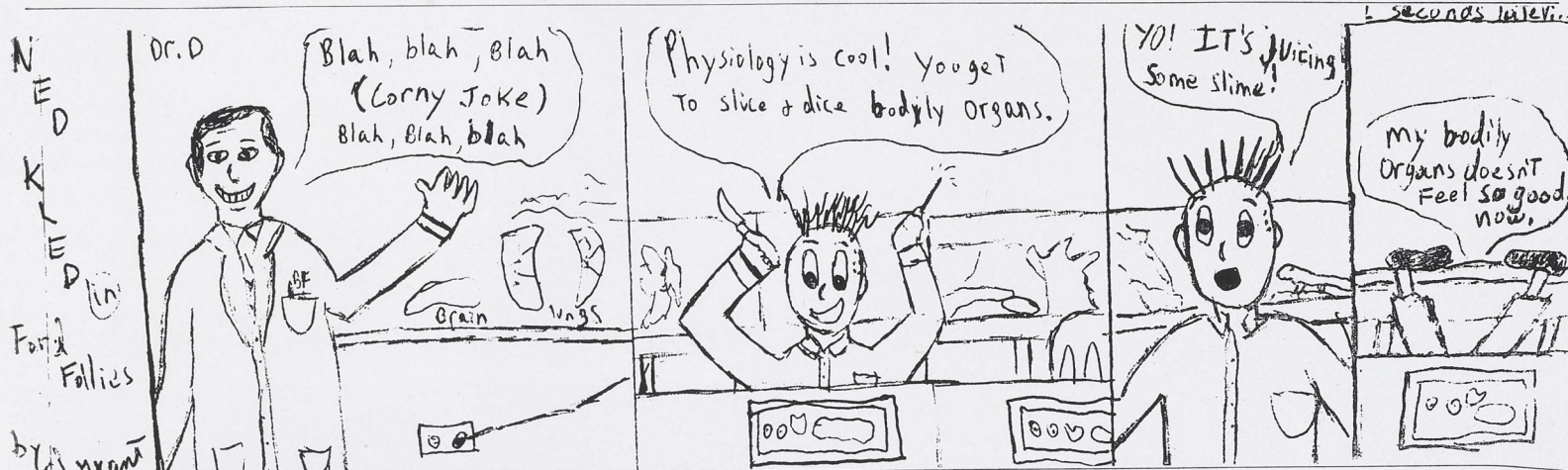
Save your money and wait for this movie to come on cable.

## Scary Moments Rife In *Blink*

by Vincent Lijoi

This movie review is on the movie *Blink*. *Blink* is a thriller with genuinely scary moments. Blind since she was 8, Emma Brody, played by Madeline Stowe, has received a cornea transplant and regained her sight, sort of. Director Michael Apted shows us the world from Emma's point of view, and it's a blurry, melting whirlwind of double visions and tilted angles. What's more, something she saw yesterday—say, a killer's face—may not register until today, when it suddenly pops into her vision. The fun of the movie is that it's not just the film that's springing these tricks on us, it's the heroine's trippy perceptions. Stowe plays Emma as a smart person who is nobody's victim and does a great job at that.

The movie is rated R and is playing everywhere.



## If We Don't Learn To Live Together As Brothers And Sisters

by Domine Lazaro

Everyone is talking about crime. Violent crimes, domestic violence and even violence in entertainment are among the prime concerns of many who believe that our culture has been overrun. There are too many people who point their fingers at each other and hide their faces, refusing directly to confront this problem.

While art is said to imitate life, some would say that questionable art is corrupting life. Attorney General Janet Reno is one of these people. In the fall of 1993, Attorney General Janet Reno announced her crusade against violence in television and movies. Reno cited Amber-Lynn Manning's letter as the inspiration for this movement. The Attorney General received a handwritten letter from the troubled elementary school student that read, "I don't like violence on TV. It makes me feel rotten. How can you help me?" Janet Reno decided that the fallout over an MTV cartoon that causes impressionable children to engage in pyrotechnic activities was the best time to set the wheels of government in motion to end yet another "crisis" that the Clinton administration had identified. Reno told a Senate committee that she was, "Tired of shoulder shrugging and finger-pointing." Because violence is destroying the nation, Reno threatened that if the television and movie industry would not regulate itself, the government would. The Attorney General suggested a government "report card" and a possible ban on all primetime violence to correct this trend that threatens to undermine American culture and ethics. Senator Paul Simon (Democrat representing Illinois) stated, "I think we have a major problem. I want to give the industry (television) more of a chance to solve this, but if they don't come up with solid answers, then I think some of us (government) have to get together and say: *What steps do we take?*" Due to pressure, the television networks have decided to post monitors that will issue annual reports concerning violence. Senator Simon commented on this plan by saying, "It does not mean that overnight we're going to have less violence in our society, and this is only one of the causes of violence." At first, this culture of violence was the result of media justification, and now this has been found to be a fractional part of the matter. Senator Simon continued the finger-pointing.

Jurors in what has been one of the nation's most controversial court cases were not willing to confront the violence that they were supposed to deliberate. Menendez juror, Sharyn E. Bishop, affirmed this when she stated, "Some people in our juryroom wanted that (graphic photographs of the crime scene that showed the corpses of Jose and Kitty Menendez) to be on the wall everyday so that we would have to look at them. That was ruled down. We could look at them if we wanted to." It's not enough merely to say that the two young men killed their parents. The court is supposed to consider all evidence that reveals the brutal nature of a crime, no matter how graphic. Erik and Lyle's evidence was a charge of excessive abuse and threats that they claim justified their murderous

actions. Their defense was an attempt to justify the profound carnage captured in those disturbing photographs. Those photographs were pivotal pieces of evidence that should have been a constant reminder of the horrid nature of this murder.

A nation that has supposedly become tolerant of such violence would not have flinched at the sight of these photographs. Since we are so used to seeing this on television, why are we so disturbed by seeing the real thing? Could it be that we can distinguish some kind of difference between the violence that we see in real life and the violence that we see on the television?

On the NBC Nightly News of December 3rd, 1993, President Clinton said, "I read his (Dan Quayle's) speech, you know, his 'Murphy Brown' speech, and I thought that there were a lot of good things in that speech, but I think he made the mistake of using Murphy Brown in that speech, getting too cute, but it is certainly true that this country would be much better off if our babies were born in two-parent families." This is a reiteration of a major theme of President Bush's re-election campaign, the theme of family values. This last quotation comes from the same Bill Clinton who, during his acceptance speech in the 1992 Democratic convention said, "Frankly, I'm fed up with politicians lecturing the rest of us with family values. Our families have values, our government doesn't." This is the birth of yet another crises that closely dovetails the previous crises. The President is trying to link violence to a lapse in family values, because he believes both of these problems were sired by the health care crisis. According to the President, the passage of his health care plan will see a true end to violence. No one knows if the implementation of the Clinton Health Care Plan will curb violence. This is just political manipulation.

Some people believe that poverty is the cause of violence. People deprived of the means to provide for their well-being are said to be desperate and will resort to any means to ensure their continued survival. These are the individuals who are said to have been "short-changed" by society. Their violence is a means of "getting back" at society. Of course, there was no massive crime wave during the Great Depression. Those people suffered from massive unemployment, a lack of government benefits, and the uncertainty of when and where their next meal would come from, and yet they did not wreak havoc on themselves. They also knew that blame would not end their hardship. These people were rugged individuals who, through sheer determination, clawed their way back to prosperity over economic despair and the most devastating war the world had ever seen.

One must admit that this is a hardship that will be most difficult to overcome. People are going to have to rethink their priorities and realize that they cannot rely on government to legislate attitude. Attitude is not a written law, it is a sentiment that is inherent in the human heart. Doctor Martin Luther King, Jr. put it best when he said, "If we don't learn to live together as brothers, we will perish together as fools."



## Ford Students Sounded Out On Kerrigan/Harding Situation

by Ewa Sadowski

For the past few days, I've been asking Bishop Ford students, as well as a teacher, these questions: "What do you think of the Harding-Kerrigan situation? Should or shouldn't Tonya Harding skate? The responses that I received are as follows:

(1) *Emil DeLuca, 408*

"I think that Harding was involved and I really feel it would be a disgrace to the U.S. for her to skate for the Olympic gold medal. I get mad about this issue, because, what if Kerrigan couldn't skate anymore? Her career was at risk. Good thing she can skate."

(2) *Mr. Villa*

"Our American system of justice is based on the presumption of innocence until proven guilty. If, indeed, Tonya Harding conspired to commit the assault on Nancy Kerrigan, then she should be charged and her conduct should be deemed detrimental to the spirit of the Olympics and she should be forced to withdraw. On the other hand, if no charges are filed, then she should be left alone to pursue her dreams. Fundamentally essential to Tonya and every American is the right to be protected against self-incrimination and if accused, the right to be represented fairly in answering the charges at an open, public hearing."

(3) *Terry Shashaty, 408*

"I have a mixed opinion on this subject. I believe that this woman is totally, unquestionably guilty and that she should not skate, but in our legal system a person is "innocent until proven guilty." So, until then, she has a right not to be excluded purely from speculation. On the other hand, the Olympic board has a right to take out any member that would give a bad reputation to the Olympics, and this would definitely be the case. So I say, hang her."

(4) *Maria Smeragliuolo, 408*

"I believe that Tonya Harding was involved in the attack against Nancy Kerrigan. In my opinion she did not deserve to win the National Competition. I am well aware that a person is "innocent until proven guilty," but in this case, to save the reputation of the C.S. Olympic team, Tonya Harding should not be allowed to skate in Lillehammer, Norway."

(5) *Gina Cicco*

"Since Tonya Harding has been implicated in the attack on Nancy Kerrigan and had knowledge of the attack prior to its occurrence, I believe she should not skate in the Olympics. Even if she did not plan the attack, she should have done everything to prevent it. In my opinion she is guilty

either way. Her actions will not bring pride to the U.S. Olympic team. Again, Harding should not be allowed to compete."

(6) *Edward Grant, 404*

"Tonya Harding should be allowed to participate in the Olympics, because she worked very hard to be in it. She has not been found guilty of anything yet, and until it is proven, she should be able to participate."

(7) *Josh "Max" Carr, 302*

"I really think that the entire Tonya Harding-Nancy Kerrigan incident is extremely overrated. Granted, Ms. Harding did know about the attack and so she should not be allowed to skate because of it. It's already a slap-in-the-face for our country to be represented by competitors against each other, instead of working as a team. No one will take us seriously in the Olympics and it will be a sad day in American Olympic history."

(8) *Jeannie Hancock, 304*

"If Tonya Harding is found guilty of having prior knowledge of the attack on Nancy and/or conspiring against her, then Harding should be banned from the Olympics. Otherwise, if she is innocent, (which I doubt), Tonya Harding should not let this controversy interfere with her career, and she should carry an attitude of good sportsmanship with Nancy Kerrigan, as well as with other teammates."

(9) *Joseph DiRoe*

"I think Ms. Harding should not participate because she was involved in the attack on Kerrigan. Even if she said she had nothing to do with it, I believe she started it. I also think that she wanted Kerrigan out, because Harding knew that Kerrigan would win."

(10) *Vera Sanchez, 408*

"I feel that Tonya has proven to us that she is guilty by her reaction to the case and so she shouldn't deny the accusation. She should not have the privilege to skate in the Olympics because I strongly believe that she is guilty of wrongdoing."

(11) *Clifton Regis*

"I feel that Tonya Harding shouldn't represent the U.S., because she is on thin ice. The Olympics are for the best in the world, but if Tonya goes to Lillehammer, the other countries will see America as a crime-ridden country, and Tonya is getting into deeper trouble every day."

(12) *Belordo Agihay, 401*

"I don't think that Harding should be allowed to participate in the Olympics, because she admitted to knowing about the attack, so she didn't show sportsmanship-like conduct."

(13) *Olyce Ddineki, 403*

"Tonya should be eliminated from the Olympics because she knew about the attack and kept quiet. The Olympics committee should not decide to keep her in or out of the Olympics, the police should."

(14) *Peter Globik, 404*

"I believe that Tonya Harding is guilty as sin. I feel she knew what her ex-husband and bodyguard were going to do to Nancy Kerrigan. She shouldn't be in the Olympics because she practiced bad sportsmanship, and she also showed no honesty towards her fans."

(15) *Enissa Perez, 407*

"I believe that Tonya should be allowed to skate, because the lawyers don't have any evidence that can prove that Harding had anything to do with the attack on Nancy Kerrigan. She is a strong skater and just as good as Nancy, who worked for the Olympics all her life. So, I believe that Tonya should be allowed to go."

(16) *Chris Gardiner, 404*

"I feel that Tonya Harding should plead guilty, because of the technical substance of the case. I think that Harding knows that she is wrong, but is afraid to admit it because she wants to be in the Olympics. Even though she is wrong, Harding should be allowed to participate, so that Nancy Kerrigan can kick her rear in the Olympics."

(17) *J.C., 102*

"Tonya Harding always wanted to be better than Nancy Kerrigan and so she went to the extreme to try and eliminate her opponent. Harding should not be on the Olympic team, after almost ruining Nancy's career and should have her just desserts right back."

(18) *Evor Sadowski, 407*

"I feel utter disgust and contempt towards Tonya Harding, her ex-husband, bodyguard, and everyone else involved in almost maiming Nancy for life. Sure Tonya acts innocently and denies all the allegations, but considering that sportsmanship is slowly becoming meaningless even in sports and athletes will go to great lengths in order to reach number one, my convictions become stronger every minute. Someone should do the same thing to Harding and let her get a taste of her own medicine."

(19) *Minh, 305*

"I believe that Tonya Harding should not be allowed to go to the Olympics, because she knew about the attack on Nancy Kerrigan before the police questioned her. She admitted to the press that she did not report the incident when she knew about it."

## What Changes Might Be Made

by Alyce Dolinski

Since many students have been complaining, arguing, protesting, and fighting (verbally) about the fact that there should be changes made in this school, I asked, "What changes would you like to see in this school?"

*Chavon Person, 207*

"I feel that sophomores should have more privileges and should be able to wear pants. I think prices in the lunch room are too high and should be lowered. Also, there should be more heat in the school."

*Heidi Mikkola, 406*

"They should have a talent show every year. The library rules should be changed. More elective courses for seniors should be added. Students should treat fellow students with more respect and shouldn't be picked on because they are different."

*Maria Smeragliuolo, 408*

"Prices in the cafeteria are too high and should be lowered, such as for potato chips. They should cost 25 cents, not 55 cents."

*Valerie Jean, 405*

"There should be more entertainment like dances, talent shows, fashion shows, and away trips for seniors to which you can invite a guest."

*Peter Glabik, 404*

"I believe there should be one line for juniors and seniors and one line for freshmen and sophomores in the cafeteria."

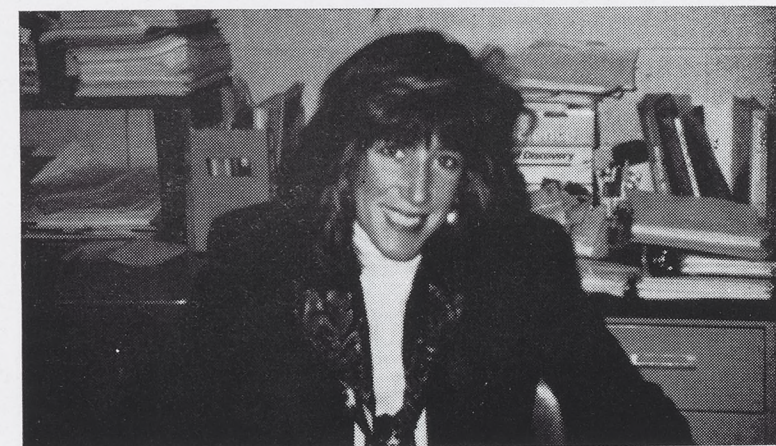
*Ewa Sadowski, 407*

"I believe that the school should keep up good maintenance, since some ceiling tiles are falling out, the girl's bathrooms are missing latches to the bathroom doors, and several classroom floors are stained and should be replaced with new ones."

*Indira McClymont, 402*

"There should be longer lunch periods, and students should be allowed to wear any kind of sweaters they want."

## Faculty Focus: Ms. Coughlin



Ms. Coughlin of the science department.

by Alyce Dolinski

In this mid-year edition of Highpoint, I've decided to do the *Faculty Focus* on Mrs. Coughlin, a science teacher.

Mrs. Coughlin could be considered one of the "new" teachers here at Ford. She came here last year because of Ford's good reputation and the quality of the students. Mrs. Coughlin received her education at Manhattan College and N.Y.U.

It was not until three years ago that she started her teaching career. Before coming to Ford about one year ago, Mrs. Coughlin taught at Beach Channel High School.

The subjects she teaches are: physical science (9th grade) and general biology (10th grade). Beside those two subjects, when Mrs. Coughlin first came here last

year, she taught general chemistry.

I asked Mrs. Coughlin, "Why did you become a teacher? Any inspirations?" Her response was, "There were a few teachers I had through high school and college that made a lasting impression on me—they inspired me to choose teaching as a career. I also enjoy the challenge of teaching high school students."

While not teaching, Mrs. Coughlin belongs to a women's track and road runner's club and is also actively involved in her neighborhood safety and environmental protection committee.

I also asked Mrs. Coughlin, "Do you have any special teaching methods?" Her response was, "I believe students should be treated with the same respect that you expect from them."

## Mr. Turturro Of Art Department, Moderator Of GAMES CLUB, Interviewed

by Clifton Regis

Some of us may have had Mr. Turturro for art. Most of us know him. But many of us probably didn't know he directed the Games Club. He took over in 1986 and has been running it ever since.

But throughout the years the club hasn't got much attention. It seemed like it's

only attention getters were ping pong and arts. And since it seems that way this year, Mr. Turturro is going to make ping pong a tournament with other schools. He's hoping that will bring people's interest back into the club.

I talked to Mr. Turturro about it.

Q. "Mr. Turturro, what is

the games club about and what does it offer?"

A. "It's about recreation—you're using your mind in school everyday, probably without having fun. In the games club you're using your mind while playing chess, checkers, scrabble, quija, ping pong, war games, etc. Many

students are discouraged about quija; they feel that quija is satanic or evil, and because Bishop Ford H.S. is a Catholic school, they feel we should remove it from the shelves. But, really, it's only a game of illusion."

Q. "The students didn't give much attention to the

Games Club last year, so, this year, what are you going to do?"

A. "By word of mouth we're going to ask our members to tell other classmates."

If you'd like to join the Games Club, talk to Mr. Turturro. They meet every Wednesday.